

We claim:

1 1. A method comprising:
2 a processor executing a BIOS routine by receiving information from at least one
3 first computing system units;
4 the processor executing the BIOS routine by storing said received information in a
5 memory;
6 for each of at least one second computing system units,
7 the processor executing the BIOS routine by receiving an initial request
8 for said received information from the second computing system unit;
9 the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second
10 computing system unit in response to said received request at least one of said
11 received information stored in said memory before the receipt of said request if
12 any is stored; and
13 the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second
14 computing system unit at least one of said received information received
15 subsequent to said request.

1 2. The method defined in claim 1 wherein said information comprises at least one of
2 unit information, system information, error information, status information, configuration
3 information, and event information.

1 3. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the receiving said information from the
2 first units is according to an API.

1 4. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the providing said information to the
2 second units is according to an API.

1

1 5. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the storing the received information in a
2 memory is according to a time of receipt of said information.

1 6. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the providing the received information
2 stored in the memory before a receipt of said request is according to a time of receipt by
3 said processor.

1 7. The method defined in claim 1 wherein said information received by said
2 processor is appended to include at least one of a sequence number and an absolute time.

1

1 8. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the provided received information stored
2 before the receipt of said request includes one of all said received information and a
3 categorized subset of all said received information.

1 9. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the provided information received
2 subsequent to said request includes one of all said received information and a categorized
3 subset of all said received information

1

1 10. A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed by
2 a processor, cause said processor to perform operations comprising:

3 during execution of a BIOS routine, receiving information from at least one first
4 computing system units;

5 during execution of the BIOS routine, storing said received information in a
6 memory;

7 for each of at least one second computing system units,

8 during execution of the BIOS routine, receiving an initial request for said
9 received information from the second computing system unit;

10 during execution of the BIOS routine in response to said request,
11 providing to the second computing system unit at least one of said information
12 stored in said memory before the receipt of said request if any is stored; and

13 during execution of the BIOS routine, providing to said second computing
14 system unit at least one of said received information received subsequent to said
15 request.

1
1 11. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein said information comprises at least one
2 of unit information, system information, error information, status information,
3 configuration information, and event information.

1 12. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein the receiving information is according
2 to an API.

1 13. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein the providing said information stored to
2 the second units is according to an API.

1 14. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein the storing the received information in a
2 memory is according to a time of receipt of said information.

1 15. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein the providing the received information
2 stored in the memory before a receipt of said request is according to a time of receipt by
3 said processor.

1 16. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein the information received is appended to
2 include at least one of a sequence number and an absolute time.

1 17. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein the provided information stored before
2 the receipt of said request includes one of all said received information and a categorized
3 subset of all said received information

1 18. The medium defined in claim 10 wherein the provided information received
2 subsequent to said request includes one of all said received information and a categorized
3 subset of all said received information

1
1 19. A computer that comprises:
2 a stored BIOS program in a non-volatile memory that includes instructions that
3 cause said computer to:
4 receive information from at least one first units coupled to said computer;
5 store said received information in a memory;
6 for each of at least one second units coupled to said computer,
7 receive an initial request for said information from the second unit;
8 in response to said request, provide to the second unit at least one of said
9 information stored in said memory before the receipt of said request if any is
10 stored, and
11 provide to the second unit at least one of said received information to the
12 second unit received subsequent to said request.

1 20. The computer defined in claim 19 where the information includes at least one of
2 unit information, system information, error information, status information, configuration
3 information, and event information.

1 21. The computer defined in claim 19 wherein the receive information from the first
2 units is according to an API.

1 22 The computer defined in claim 19 wherein the provide to the second unit
2 information is according to an API.

1 23. The computer defined in claim 19 wherein the store the received information in a
2 memory is according to a time or receipt of said information.

1 24. The computer defined in claim 19 wherein the provide the received information
2 stored in the memory before a receipt of said request is according to a time of receipt of
3 said information.

1 25. The computer defined in claim 19 wherein the information received by said
2 processor is appended to include at least one of a sequence number and an absolute time.

1
2 26. The computer defined in claim 19 wherein the provided information stored before
3 the receipt of said request includes one of all said received information and a categorized
4 subset of all said received information.

1 27. The computer defined in claim 19 wherein the provided information received
2 subsequent to said request includes one of all said received information and a categorized
3 subset of all said received information.